

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 96

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the President, working with the other member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), should use all available diplomatic means to negotiate a fair, equitable, and peaceful settlement between warring factions in Yugoslavia without the introduction of ground elements of the United States Armed Forces.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 1999

Mr. HAYES submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the President, working with the other member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), should use all available diplomatic means to negotiate a fair, equitable, and peaceful settlement between warring factions in Yugoslavia without the introduction of ground elements of the United States Armed Forces.

Whereas the Congress supports the members of the United States Armed Forces engaged in military operations against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

Whereas the Congress and the people of the United States deeply appreciate the sacrifice and patriotism dem-

onstrated by members of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas the Congress desires a peaceful and autonomous Kosovo;

Whereas the Congress wishes to focus its undivided attention on the refugees and humanitarian relief;

Whereas the bombing by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has significantly reduced the military power and equipment of Slobodan Milosevic;

Whereas the NATO alliance has no desire to inflict damage on the civilian population of Yugoslavia;

Whereas the supplemental defense appropriation bill relating to Kosovo that will be enacted shows the uncompromising resolve of the United States, as a member of NATO, to reject the totalitarian regime of Milosevic and others like him;

Whereas the United States and NATO support freedom and democracy around the world;

Whereas a bipartisan delegation from the House of Representatives conferred with members of the Russian Duma in Vienna, Austria, to ameliorate diplomatic relations with Russia which have been strained as a result of NATO's actions in Yugoslavia;

Whereas the Congress extends its deepest gratitude to Staff Sergeant Christopher J. Stone, Staff Sergeant Andrew A. Ramirez, and Specialist Steven M. Gonzales for their courageous service and sacrifice during their 32-day captivity in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and commends the Reverend Jesse Jackson for successfully negotiating their release; and

Whereas Slobodan Milosevic has demonstrated an increased willingness to reengage in peace negotiations: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

3 (1) the President, working with the other mem-
4 ber nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organiza-
5 tion (NATO), should use all available diplomatic
6 means to negotiate a fair, equitable, and peaceful
7 settlement between warring factions in Yugoslavia
8 without the introduction of ground elements of the
9 United States Armed Forces forces;

10 (2) a mutually accepted ceasefire agreement
11 should be reached while the negotiations described in
12 paragraph (1) are ongoing; and

13 (3) the settlement described in paragraph (1)
14 should include (but is not limited to)—

15 (A) the removal of Serbia military forces
16 and national police from Kosovo;

17 (B) the establishment of an autonomous
18 Kosovo;

19 (C) the unhindered return of any willing
20 refugee to Kosovo; and

- 1 (D) the oversight by an international
- 2 peacekeeping commission of the matters speci-
- 3 fied in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C).

○